

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 SMI-01 CEQ-01
EPA-01 INT-05 DLOS-09 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 /050 W
-----017320 010857Z /21
P 010757Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3222

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, IWC-1, EFIS, JA
SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION
(IWC) DECEMBER 6-7, TOKYO

REF: A) STATE 275252 B) STATE 284307

1. BOWHEAD WHALE ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT LUNCHEON MEETING DECEMBER 5. MRS. PATSY MINK, DR. RICHARD FRANK AND REGFISHATT JAMES H. JOHNSON HAVE BEEN INVITED FROM U.S. SIDE. DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MICHIO MIZOGUCHI, ECONOMICS BUREAU, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. KUNIO YONEZAWA IWC COMMISSIONER AND KUNIAKI ASOMURA, DIRECTOR FISHERY DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FROM JAPANESE SIDE WILL ATTEND. MR. YONEZAWA WILL BE AVAILABLE MONDAY AFTERNOON FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IF SO DESIRED BY USG. THIS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR DR. ARON TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS. IN MEANTIME, WILL ATTEMPT TO GET SUBSTITUTION OF ARON FOR JOHNSON AT LUNCHEON.

2. IN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION, MR. YONEZAWA HAS INFORMED FISHATT THAT HE IS FAMILIAR WITH U.S. PROPOSAL AND IS SYMPATHETIC TO U.S. PROBLEM. HE INDICATED HE WILL DO WHAT HE CAN TO ASSIST IN ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL. ON THE OTHER HAND HE POINTED OUT THAT SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE REPORT, WHICH INDICATES THAT TAKING 15 WHALES
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ANNUALLY, ASSUMING STANDING STOCK OF 1300 WHALES, WOULD EVENTUALLY DESTROY THE POPULATION, WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH. FISHATT NOTED THAT 1300 FIGURE IS POINT ESTIMATE WITHIN RANGE, WHICH ON HIGH SIDE, IS MUCH MORE THAN 1300. ONE MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF PROPOSED PROGRAM IS TO OBTAIN BETTER ESTIMATE OF STANDING STOCK. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT IF BETTER ESTIMATE NOT OBTAINED THIS SPRING, IWC WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE ACTION

AT ANNUAL MEETING NEXT JUNE. MR. YONEZAWA DID NOT RESPOND
DIRECTLY TO THIS BUT IT IS CLEAR HE IS WELL AWARE OF PROBLEMS
NOW CONFRONTING THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ESTABLISHING ESTIMATES
OF STANDING STOCKS.

3. IN MRS. MINK'S INTITAL MEETING WITH BOLLEN IN CANBERRA, HE
INDICATED THAT IT PROBABLY WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO GET
ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. POSITION IN VIEW OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
REPORT. HOWEVER, AT MR. BOLLEN'S INVITATION, MRS. MINK LATER HAD
PROLONGED CONVERSATION WITH HIM IN WHICH HE WAS MUCH MORE
OPTIMISTIC. IN FACT, HE REPORTED HIS GUESSES ON HOW EACH COUNTRY
WOULD GO. WHILE IT IS DIFFICULT TO MAKE DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS
FROM THIS CONVERSATION, MRS. MINK'S VIEW IS THAT U.S. POSITION
HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHALING, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO18473
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770445-0216
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712103/aaaadjmm.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 30e6cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 275252, 77 STATE 284307
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 109303
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION (IWC) DECEMBER 6-7, TOKYO
TAGS: SENV, EFIS, US, JA, IWC-1
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/30e6cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009